

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Chart of the West Coast of Sumatra, From Bencoolen to Key Sers Bay [with:] Plan of Cawoor Bay [and:] Plan of Pulo Pisang [and:] Plan of Little Fortune Island and Billimbing Bay

Stock#: 94362

Map Maker: Laurie & Whittle

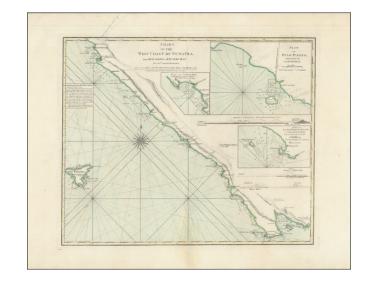
Date: 1794
Place: London

Color: Hand Colored

Condition: VG

Size: 24.5 x 20 inches

Price: \$ 950.00



Description:

The chart titled *Chart of the West Coast of Sumatra*, *From Bencoolen to Key Sers Bay* is an exceptional illustration of the coastal cartography of Sumatra in the late 18th century. Published by Laurie & Whittle on 12th May 1794, this comprehensive work includes contributions from Captain Joseph Huddart and Mr. John Price, both distinguished figures in maritime navigation during this period. The chart encapsulates multiple perspectives of the coastal geography, featuring additions like the "Plan of Cawoor Bay," "Plan of Pulo Pisang," and "Plan of Little Fortune Island and Billimbing Bay."

The chart conveys the complexities of Sumatra's west coast from Bencoolen to Key Sers Bay with substantial detail. Captain Huddart, a prominent sea captain and hydrographer known for his improvements to nautical charts contributed most of the knowledge depicted here. His navigational expertise is evident in the detailed plans of Cawoor Bay, Pulo Pisang, and Little Fortune Island and Billimbing Bay, illustrating an intimate knowledge of these waterways.

Adding to the richness of the chart are the observations by Mr. John Price, the Chief Mate of the *Kent* in 1786. His notes offer precious firsthand accounts of the maritime conditions near Pring, where the ship *Kent* anchored to load pepper. His detailed description of the anchorage, noting the sudden change in depth and the quality of the seabed, offers an invaluable account of the coastal conditions and navigational challenges during that period.



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The chart also includes a coastal profile showcasing the appearance of the land between Manna Point and Padang-Cochin. This feature, a common inclusion in nautical charts of the era, offers a visual guide to sailors about the land's appearance from sea level, further enhancing the chart's practical value.

Overall, this chart of the West Coast of Sumatra embodies the depth of maritime knowledge in the late 18th century. It stands as a testament to the significant collaborative efforts of individuals like Captain Huddart and Mr. John Price, whose firsthand experiences and expertise significantly enhanced the understanding and navigation of these challenging coastal waters.

Detailed Condition:

Repair at the bottom edge around the central vertical fold.